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THURSDAY
SEPTEMBER 10, 1953

André de Staercke came to see me this morning. In a recent conversation with Spaak he gathered that Spaak is now favorably inclined to try to persuade the Socialist Party to vote for ratification of EDC by one Chamber in October. This would mean its passage, since all three Parties are in favor of it and have only been awaiting a resolution of the constitutional revision question and the settlement of a date for new elections. I talked to André about the great importance of his going to Rome as head of the Belgian Delegation and he says he will do so and uphold the thesis of supranational powers in the European Political Community. The paper prepared on this subject by the Quai d'Orsay is apparently most unsatisfactory and represents a retrogression from the principle of supranationality.

De Staercke suggested, if it seemed appropriate, that I ask President Eisenhower to receive Van Zeeland, who is leaving today for Washington and (1) congratulate Van Zeeland on his efforts to bring about EDC ratification and (2) tell Van Zeeland he has been following the progress on the EDC treaty with great interest and supposes of course ~~that~~ Van Zeeland is strongly in favor of its supranational provisions. I sent a telegram in this sense tonight.

Keith Officer lunched with me and expanded further on the subject he had mentioned a few days ago of the rift in Anglo-American relations over Far Eastern questions. He said ~~that~~ the Australians and New Zealanders were on Great Britain's side in this regard and thought it was a situation which required close attention by the American Government.

Clarence Streit came here this afternoon. He is engaged on a new book which he hopes to publish this winter. He is a great believer in European integration and thinks its success would be helpful in advancing his project of "Union Now". He has dedicated the last twenty or more years of his life

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to the cause of world federalism and is a true believer on the subject.

Barrett McGurn of the Herald Tribune came to see me in connection with an article he is writing on European integration. Like most of his colleagues, the great extent of the Adenauer victory in Germany has changed his pessimism over EDC ratification into at least a realization that the French will have to take parliamentary action on it regardless of whether the result is favorable or unfavorable.

Hervé Alphand visited me at the house tonight. He still entertains some hope of being selected at the last moment to head the French Delegation to the Rome meeting. That will depend on Georges Bidault's decision. Bidault is ill at Vichy but is expected to attend the French Cabinet meeting next Tuesday where instructions to the Delegation and the choice of its personnel will be decided. I understand the Quai officials would like Alexandre Parodi to head it with Seydoux as his deputy. Both of them are said to be opposed to the grant of supranational powers to a political community.

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